

Investigation Forms Available On-line

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The Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Epidemiology Resource Center (ERC) has updated several reporting forms and posted them to the ISDH Web site for timely investigation and reporting. These forms include 27 reportable communicable disease case investigation forms, the Animal Bite Report form, and the Application and Claim for Biologics form.

Over the past two years, the ERC has been reviewing and revising case investigation forms with the goal of standardized forms and a case investigation form for every reportable disease. On-line forms provide several advantages over previous practices:

- The ISDH no longer has to print, store, and distribute large quantities of paper forms.
- Local health departments do not have to maintain a supply of forms.
- Electronic forms are easier to revise and reissue as diseases and investigation focuses change.

The ERC plans to have all reportable disease case investigation forms available on-line by the end of 2005.

To access the electronic forms, visit the ISDH Web site at http://www.in.gov/isdh/form/index_hcp_forms.htm. The user can complete the forms two ways: either print a paper copy and enter data manually, or enter information on-line and print the completed form. Forms can be saved to a local computer and used in either way. Forms cannot be completed electronically before saving as a computer file. Completed forms must be printed to save the data.

The ISDH will continue to print the Animal Bite Report forms in the three-part format, because so many different agencies use the form, often in situations where computer access is unavailable. ***In general, as case investigation forms become available on-line, the ISDH will no longer mail paper copies of the forms.*** Completed case investigation forms can continue to be mailed or faxed to the ISDH ERC at 317-234-2812.
